

Daniel P. Vrakas
County Executive



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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VRAKAS WANTS FRESH LOOK AT COURTS PLAN

WAUKESHA – Waukesha County Executive Dan Vrakas announced today that he has sent an ordinance to the County Board that changes the scope of project funds that are designated for the Phase II Secured Courts Facility planning and design. He believes that building construction should be put on hold in order to conduct a feasibility study to identify more cost-effective improvement options.

Initial project costs to develop the 4-story structure were estimated at \$14 million, but the most recent estimates for the same project scope came in at \$24.5 million.

Vrakas will not advance the current justice facility design in his budget later this year. Instead, he plans to work with members of the judicial and legislative branches to look for less costly operating and design modification alternatives that address security issues.

“It would not be fiscally responsible for us to move forward with this project given the drastic price hike,” said Vrakas. “I firmly believe that we can find a solution to the security concerns identified by the sheriff and circuit court judges at a significantly lower cost.”

Vrakas has instructed the Court Facility work group, which is comprised of key county personnel and public officials, to identify project enhancements that meet security and traffic flow concerns in the existing courthouse for the next 10-15 years.

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